

Eaton family - some local colour learned from Mrs. D. M. Moore  
Apr. 25, 1964.

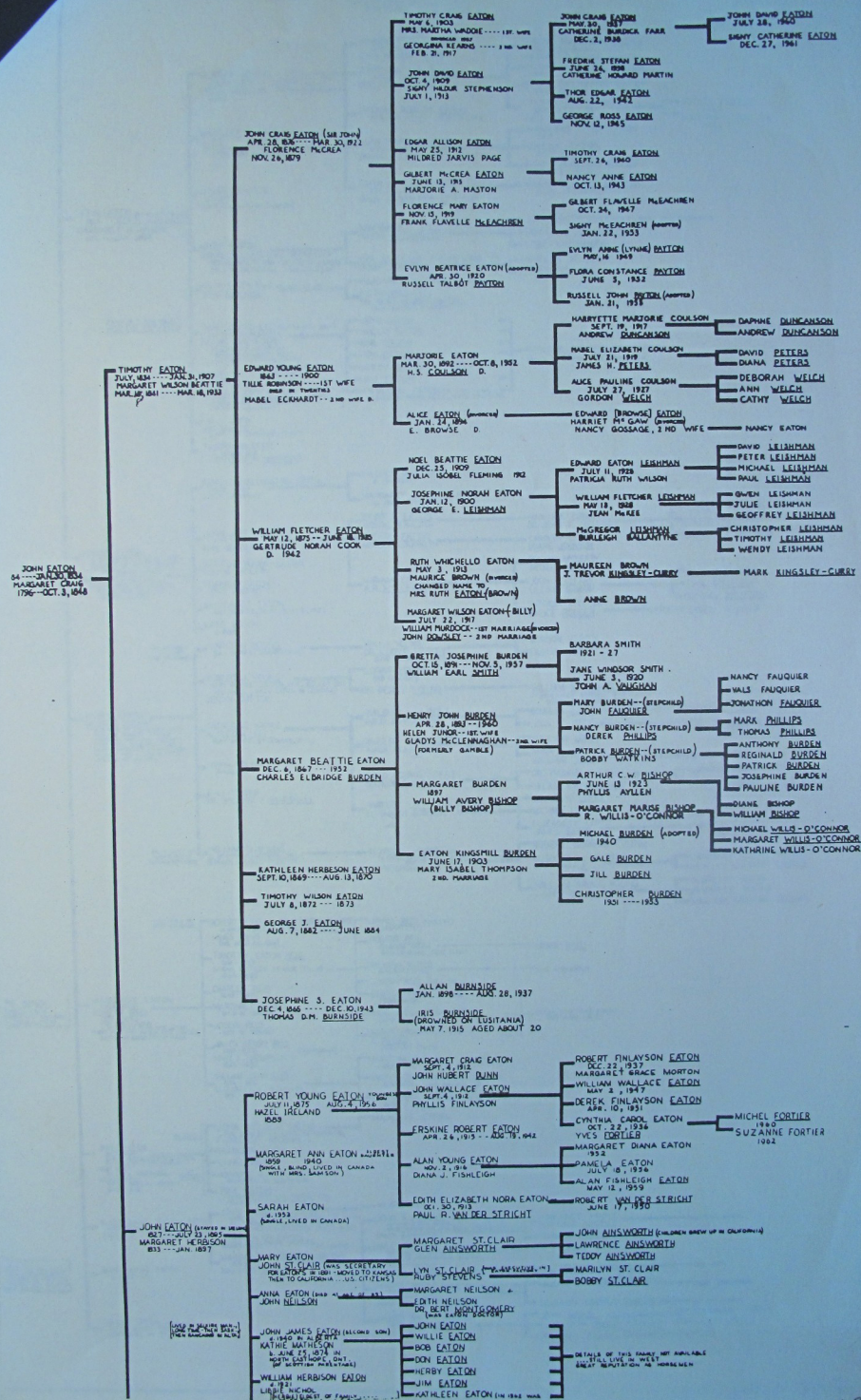
Charles Burden - worked in Toronto - was a nice man, quiet - was  
a cloth dealer (ch.)

Margaret Burden - "a wonderful person" - sterner type than Mrs. Burnside  
was a good friend of Mrs. Mavor Moore

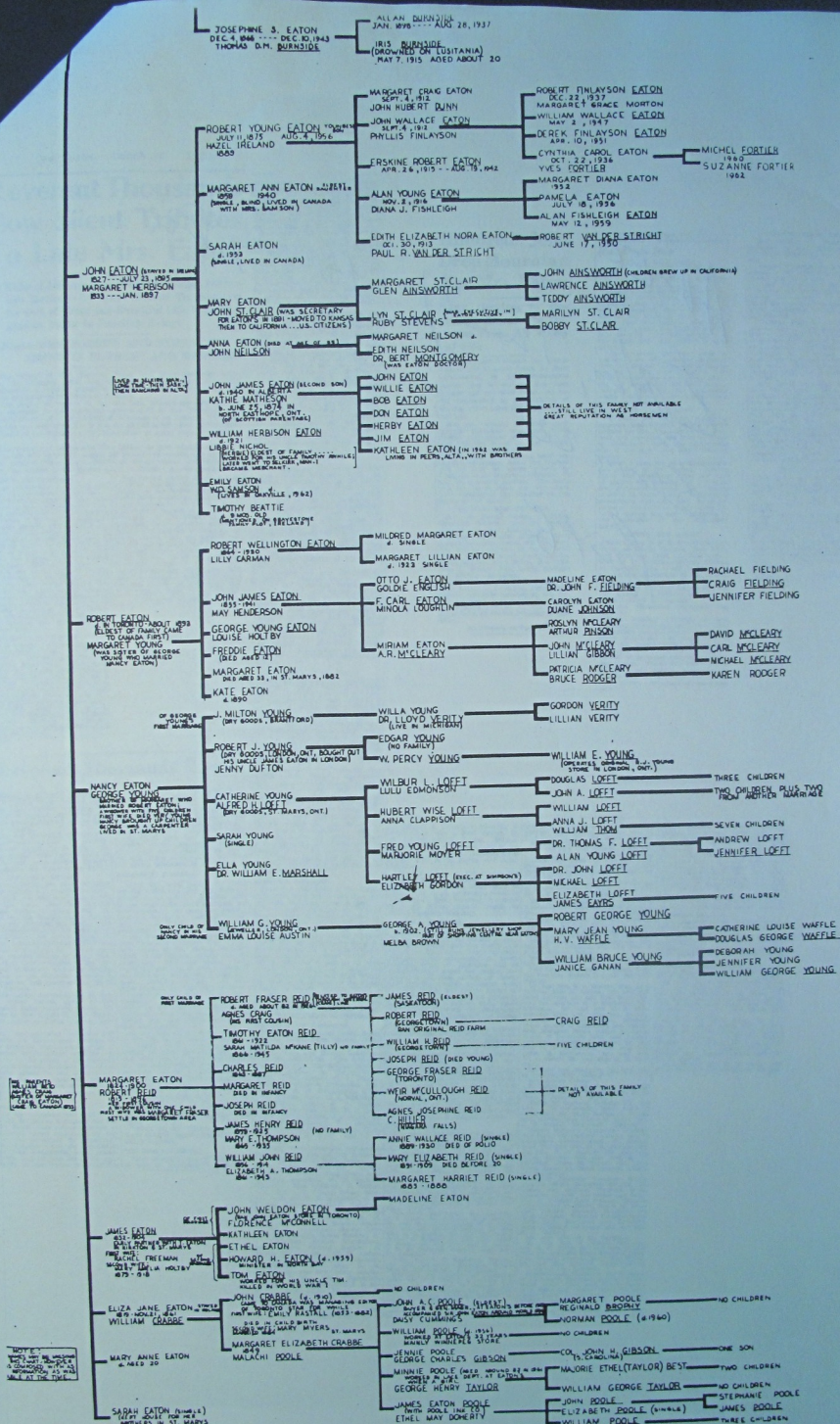
Mrs. Burnside - her husband T. D. M Burnside married her only for her  
money - when she found this out was heart-broken  
...daughter Iris was a head-strong young girl -  
her father separated early in her life from her mother  
- she insisted on going and living near her father in  
England - so Mrs. B. took a cottage in the area so  
she could be near her father - she, Iris, used to flirt  
with the local folk and servants... She was drowned on  
the Lusitania...she was taken to Mrs. Moore for  
elocution lessons and training.  
The boy turned out to be not much.

Mrs. Timothy Eaton was a delightful person..."her readings from the  
bible were superb" - would have been an actress of  
excellence.

(AS OF DECEMBER 1902)

















## BOUNTY AND CHARM OF GRACIOUS LADY WARMLY RECALLED

Mrs. Eaton's Loyalty and  
Generosity Receive Sin-  
cere Tribute

### LOVED GARDEN, BOOKS

When spring comes again to "Raymar" the burgeoning trees will miss that gracious silver-haired friend who loved and loved each one of them and for whom the garden was ever "a lovable thing." Mrs. Timothy Eaton, in her full gracious years as daughter, wife, mother and grandmother—yes, and great-grandmother—found it in her heart to share the warmth of her personality with many friends, with those in her family circle, with those who served her, and with the flowers and trees which have always brought so much of joy into her life—whether a potted geranium on her window-sill or the rare and beautiful plants in her Oakville garden.

Her deep love of flowers was beau-  
(Continued on Page 2, Column 2.)

## BOUNTY AND CHARM OF GRACIOUS LADY

(Continued from Page 1, Column 1.)

fully expressed, by Mrs. Eaton in various ways—one of which was her gift each year of exquisite blooms for the tables of the Mary League's annual dinner, in memory of her son, the late Sir John Eaton. But there were countless things of this kind which she did quite unknown to any one but a few of those immediately concerned. Her closest and dearest friends said of her that she was ever doing kindnesses and bringing comfort and happiness "quietly and in secret—her left hand never knew what her right was doing." Her friendship was treasured by many. "She was goodness itself and such a staunch friend," said one, and her children and children's children revered and revered her.

Long years ago when Timothy Eaton was laying the foundation for a great enterprise his loyal and devoted wife was in every sense of the word a helpmate. She went to the store with him, helped him in many ways, and was a personal friend to his employees. In those early days, if an employee was away through illness, Mrs. Eaton waited no time in taking her good broths and jellies to tempt a flagging appetite. If some one left to be married there was a wedding gift.

#### Friends' Tribute.

Of her host of friends during her long and eventful life, two were outstanding. Last night heartfelt tribute to the late Mrs. Eaton was paid by Mrs. George Nasmith and Mrs. Jessie Alexander Roberts, who spoke on behalf of many others.

Mrs. George G. Nasmith, pioneer Principal of the Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression said of Mrs. Eaton: "Margaret W. Eaton was a truly great woman. For over thirty years I have known and loved her. If in early life she had studied dramatic art, I believe she would have been a second Ellen Terry. I have never heard any one read Shakespeare with greater simplicity, beauty of diction and rhythm.

"Canada may be proud of the woman who so generously gave of her wealth to build the school named after her—the Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression—and thousands of its pupils the world over honor, love and revere her name. She was a great humanitarian, and tonight they, with me, are bereft of a friend."

Mrs. Jessie Alexander Roberts said: "Mrs. Eaton was a whole-souled, generous lady. She was always delighted to share her pleasures, and in fact everything she had, with her friends. She was kindly toward every one, and had that gracious quality of inspiring devotion in friends and in domestics. She saw that even the messenger boys were remembered or rewarded. She entertained a great deal, and loved to have her friends at her home."

Mrs. Roberts remembered especially visits to the Muskoka residence, Ravenscrag, on Lake Rosseau. "I saw her about two weeks ago at her home in Oakville. She had always possessed wonderful vitality. She read a great deal, and even latterly could read without her glasses."

Mrs. Roberts first came in contact with Mrs. Eaton through her work, having had Mrs. Eaton's daughter, Margaret, now Mrs. C. E. Burden, as a pupil. Mrs. Eaton, she said, was always keenly interested in dramatics, and was herself a very expressive reader. In Mr. Eaton's time she used to read whole novels to her husband when at their summer home. She was interested in the new poetry, and she loved to keep pace with the progress of literature in general.

### MRS. TIMOTHY EATON.

Few women of Toronto, while rulers primarily of their home and fireside, touched life at so many important points as Mrs. Timothy Eaton, who has passed away at the age of 91. So devoted to her husband's work as merchant prince and to the happy circle of her family was Mrs. Eaton, that few knew the parts she played in the encouragement of the arts, hospital, charity and church work, and in the dispensing of hospitality to her wide circle of friends. She possessed a buoyant temperament, and her long years of good health enabled her to radiate her sunshine on countless occasions.

While a visitor to St. Marys she first met the young Irish storekeeper, Timothy Eaton, and soon they were married. She became in a true sense the business partner of the man who advanced step by step in his long career of merchandising. For many years she knew every employee, much of the detailed operations of the store, and to her judgment many of the difficult problems of management were submitted.

Her cheerfulness was unflagging, her democracy complete, and her generous impulses led her to become the first "welfare department" of the institution. Her powers of mimicry and gifts of humor led to her fostering of the Margaret Eaton School of Expression, and under other circumstances she might have become an actress herself. At seventy-eight she joined her son, the late Sir John Eaton, in an air flight over the Muskoka Lakes, when Sir John is reported to have said to her: "Mother, I never was so proud of you as at this moment—seventy-eight and a good sport!"

Happy the woman with such opportunities for service as came to Mrs. Eaton. Happy the family who surrounded her and enjoyed the inspiration of her radiant spirit.

The Globe March 20 1933

Inscription which Mrs. Eaton had placed over her Oakville home "Raymar"

--written by Henry van Dyke

"The lintel low enough to keep out pomp and pride,  
The threshold high enough to turn deceit aside,  
The door-bands strong enough from robbers to defend,  
The door will open at a touch to every friend."







MEMORANDUM RE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL

On Monday, April 27th, Mrs. Nasmith phoned to say that she had been approached by Miss Helen Parsons on behalf of the Alumnae Association to see if arrangements could be made to carry on a school under some name if the name of the Margaret Eaton School could not be continued. Mrs. Nasmith stated that if we had no objection a meeting of the Alumnae would be called for Wednesday at 3 P.M. to discuss the matter. Mrs. Nasmith was advised that there was no objection so far as we were concerned to her or the Alumnae carrying on under another name.

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On Thursday, April 30th, a letter was received from Miss Pearce, Recording Secretary of the Alumnae Association, advising the decision of the meeting.

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On Sunday, May 3rd, Mrs. Nasmith asked me if I would go over to her house so that she might discuss a few points in connection with the Margaret Eaton School.

First of all Mrs. Nasmith spoke of the meeting of the Alumnae Association and stated that there was a very strong feeling for a school of physical training only, and that when asked if she would be principal of such a school she said "No".

Mrs. Nasmith then asked my opinion of the Literature and Expression part of the school being affiliated with the Toronto Conservatory of Music with a new directorate, Sir Robert Falconer, Dr. Vogt, Mr. Timothy Eaton and Miss Gretta Burden Smith being some of the names mentioned. I told her this would not do under the name of the Margaret Eaton School as it would seem to be evidence of a backward step. She further asked if the name could be used in connection with a school of physical training only, and I said that I was quite sure that such would not be approved.

The point was impressed on Mrs. Nasmith that any offers made were not for the purpose of continuing the Margaret Eaton School but to help her personally should she want to take up that kind of work on her own account. Mrs. Nasmith said that she had done the best she could for the Margaret Eaton School and could do no better on her own account, therefore she could not see how a school of her own would be successful financially. Mrs. Nasmith also quoted one of the reasons given at the Senate of the University for not accepting the building as a memorial without an endowment.

The discussion ended with the understanding that she would not proceed on her own account and that the question had been disposed of.

Mrs. Nasmith did mention that the Alumnae Association would go on with the use of the Margaret Eaton School name. To this no opposition was made and it was taken as a matter of course.

JJV/FEW.

*J. J. Vaughan* 21



# COPY

May 2nd,  
1925.

Mrs. Wasmith,  
41 Oriole Road,  
T o r o n t o.

Dear Mrs. Wasmith,

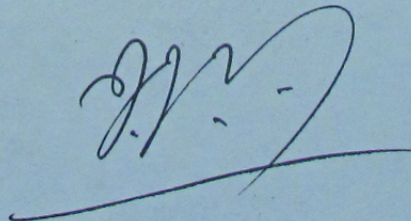
Your letter of today's date has been received in which you state that you will take the management of the Margaret Eaton School for one year providing you are relieved of financial obligation and worry, and with the understanding that the matter of affiliation will again be taken up with the University of Toronto, and that we accede to the request for an endowment.

You of course will have understood from our letters that the offer made by us was on the assumption that you desired to carry on school work on your own account, and not with the idea that the Margaret Eaton School would be conducted by you as before you resigned.

As mentioned in a previous letter those concerned are not willing to provide an endowment as well as a school building, therefore, as you have already said that you would not undertake a school in another name with the grant of the use of the fixtures in the School for an indefinite time and a contribution of \$2,500. for the first year, and as the question of affiliation, as stated before, has been dropped on account of the University requiring an endowment, we shall have to take the matter between us as concluded.

Yours truly,

JJV/J.



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